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7	
8	UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
9	DISTRICT OF NEVADA, NORTHERN DIVISION
10	VOCEET MUSTAFANOS and ) Civil Action No.
11	YOSEF L. MUSTAFANOS and ) Civil Action No
12	and through YOSEF L.  MUSTAFANOS, her legally appointed guardian,  COMPLAINT AND DEMAND
13	appointed guardian, Plaintiffs,  COMPLAINT AND DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL
14	(Deprivation of Constitutional Right to be Free vs. ) from Unreasonable Search and Seizure in
15	LYON COUNTY, GREGORY  Tom Chreasonable Search and Seizure in violation of 42 U.S.C. 1983; Deprivation of Constitutional Right to Substantive Due
16	KANTZ, DEBORAH JUNE STRODE, LAURA DEPAOLI, Violation of 42 U.S.C. § 1983; Deprivation of
17	ANDREW STRODE, EDWARD Constitutional Right to be Free from Unreasonable Search and Seizure in violation
18	inclusive, ) of Article 1, § 18 of the Nevada State
19	) Due Process of Law in violation of Article 1, §
20	) 8(5) of the Nevada State Constitution; ) Trespass; Conversion; Conspiracy; Intentional
21	) infliction of Emotional Distress)
22	Plaintiffs Yosef L. Mustafanos and Shirley Jean Clifton, by and through their
23	attorney, James Shields Beasley, for their Complaint against defendants Lyon County,
24	Gregory Kantz, Deborah June Strode, Laura DePaoli, Andrew Strode, Edward
25	Anderson, and defendant DOES 1 through 10, inclusive, allege and aver as follows:
26	GENERAL ALLEGATIONS
27	I
28	This is an action for deprivation of constitutional rights under color of state law

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brought by plaintiffs Yosef L. Mustafanos and Shirley Jean Clifton pursuant to the recodification Section 1979 of the Civil Rights Act of 1971, Title 42 United States Code, Sections 1983 and 1988, for remedies for defendants' deprivation of plaintiff's Plaintiffs Yosef L. Mustafanos and Shirley Jean Clifton allege that civil rights. defendants Gregory Kantz and Does 1-2, inclusive, while acting in the scope of their employment for defendant Lyon County and under the color of state law, conspired to perform and did perform with defendants Deborah June Strode, Laura DePaoli, Andrew Strode, Edward Anderson and DOES 3-10, inclusive, an unlawful civil standby which resulted in an unreasonable search and seizure of plaintiffs' property in violation of the Fourth Amendment to the United States Constitution. Plaintiffs also maintain that defendants Gregory Kantz and DOES 1-2, inclusive, while acting in the scope of their employment with defendant Lyon County and under the color of state law, together with defendants Deborah June Strode, Laura DePaoli, Andrew Strode, Edward Anderson, and DOES 3-10, inclusive, deprived plaintiffs of their property without due process of law in violation of the Fourteenth Amendment to the United States Constitution.

In addition, by this action, plaintiffs Yosef L. Mustafanos and Shirley Jean Clifton assert claims against defendants Gregory Kantz, Deborah June Strode, Laura DePaoli, Andrew Strode, Edward Anderson and DOES 1-10, inclusive, based upon State law, to wit: Deprivation of Constitutional right to be free from Unreasonable Search and Seizure in violation of Article 1, § 18 of the Nevada State Constitution, Trespass, Conversion, Conspiracy, and Intentional Infliction of Emotional Distress.

This action is also brought against Lyon County for its failure to properly train and supervise defendants Gregory Kantz and DOES 1-2, inclusive, in the proper performance of a civil standbys, and its establishment of policies, procedures, practices, and customs regarding the performance of civil standbys that result in unreasonable searches and seizures in violation of the Fourth and Fourteenth Amendments to the United States Constitution.

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#### JURISDICTION AND VENUE

- 1. This Court has jurisdiction over the subject matter of this action pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1331 and 1367, and venue is properly set in the United States District Court for the Northern District of Nevada pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1391.
- 2. The causes of action alleged herein arise from factual allegations occurring in this judicial district.
- 3. Plaintiff is informed and believes and based thereon alleges that each of the named Defendants resides in this judicial district.

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#### **PARTIES**

### Plaintiff

- 4. Plaintiffs Yosef L. Mustafanos and Shirley Jean Clifton are, and at all times mentioned herein were, residents of Silver Springs, Lyon County, Nevada, residing at 5400 Railroad Street, Silver Springs, Nevada.
- 5. On or about August 13, 2012, plaintiff Yosef L. Mustafanos was appointed as the guardian of the person and estate of his disabled sister, plaintiff Shirley Jean Clifton, in the Carson City District Court.
  - 6. Plaintiff Shirley Jean Clifton is a disabled Army veteran.

#### B. <u>Defendants</u>

- 7. At all times herein mentioned, defendant Lyon County was, and now is, a County duly organized and existing under the laws of the State of Nevada.
- 8. Plaintiff is informed and believes and based thereon alleges that defendants Gregory Kantz and DOES 1-2, inclusive, are, and at all times herein mentioned were, residents of Lyon County, Nevada, and employees of defendant Lyon County, working in the patrol division of the Lyon County Sheriff's Department. In doing the things hereinafter described, defendants Gregory Kantz and DOES 1-2, inclusive, acted within the course and scope of their employment with the Lyon County

- Sheriff's Department and Lyon County. Defendant Lyon County is, therefore, liable to plaintiffs for the acts of defendants Gregory Kantz and DOES 1-2, inclusive, as hereinafter alleged in the First through Sixth Claims for Relief of plaintiffs' Complaint. Further, in doing all of the things hereinafter mentioned, defendants Lyon County, by and through the actions of its employees who assisted in the execution of the civil standbys hereinafter referred to, and Gregory Kantz acted under color of the statutes, ordinances, regulations, customs and usages of the State of Nevada and the County of Lyon, and pursuant to the official policy of defendant Lyon County, as created by the Lyon County Sheriff's Department, acting under color of its authority as such.
- 9. Plaintiffs are informed and believe and based thereon allege that defendant Deborah June Strode is, and at all times herein mentioned was, a resident of Lyon County, Nevada.
- 10. On December 5, 2009, plaintiff Yosef L. Mustafanos and defendant Deborah June Strode were married; and ever since that date have been husband and wife. There is presently pending in the Lyon County District Court an action for the dissolution of their marriage.
- 11. Plaintiffs are informed and believe and based thereon allege that defendants Laura DePaoli, Edward Anderson, and DOES 1-10, inclusive, are, and at all times herein mentioned were, residents of Lyon County, Nevada.
- 12. Plaintiffs are informed and believe and based thereon allege that defendant Andrew Strode is, and at all times herein mentioned was, a resident of Washoe County, Nevada.
- 13. Plaintiffs are ignorant of the true names and capacities of defendants sued herein as DOES 1-10, inclusive, and therefore sue these defendants by such fictitious names. Plaintiffs will amend this Complaint to allege their true names and capacities when ascertained. Plaintiffs are informed and believe and based thereon allege that each of the fictitiously-named defendants is responsible in some manner for the occurrences herein alleged, and that plaintiffs' injuries as herein alleged were

proximately caused by the actions of said fictitiously-named defendants.

- 14. Plaintiffs are informed and believe, and based thereon allege, that at all times herein mentioned each of the defendants sued herein as DOES 1-10, inclusive, was the agent and employee of each of the remaining defendants and was at all times acting within the purpose and scope of such agency and employment.
- 15. Plaintiffs are informed and believe, and based thereon allege, that at the time of the occurrences described in this Complaint, it was the custom and practice of the Lyon County Sheriff's Department to allow its officers (1) to perform civil standbys and to affirmatively affect the repossession of property in the possession of third parties on behalf of private parties without the necessity of a court order allowing the same; (2) to perform warrantless entries into private homes for the purpose of affirmatively facilitating and encouraging unreasonable searches and seizures performed by private persons; and (3) to affirmatively intervene to aid private parties in repossessing property where the ownership of the property being repossessed is in dispute and repossession would not occur, but for the assistance and authority exhibited by Lyon County officers in assisting private parties to take possession of the property.
- 16. Since January 1, 1990, plaintiff Yosef L. Mustafanos has been involved in the transportation business as a long-haul semi-tractor truck operator; and since approximately May 2005, he has been the owner of certain 1991 Western Star, model 4964F, semi-tractor truck, VIN 3MK927998, as well as the owner of other transport vehicles.
- 17. In or about August 2011, plaintiff Yosef L. Mustafanos and defendant Deborah June Strode decided that it would be to their mutual benefit if they were to form a trucking business which would be owned and operated as a woman-owned business. Both plaintiff Yosef L. Mustafanos and Deborah June Strode believed that, by establishing a woman-owned trucking business, they would be able to more easily obtain contracts for the leasing of their trucks with one or more of the larger trucking

companies which had already obtained their ICC and DOT Authority. Both plaintiff
Yosef L. Mustafanos and defendant Deborah June Strode intended that they would
continue to operate as a woman-owned business, leasing out their trucks to a larger
trucking company until their operations were profitable and they were in a financial
position to obtain their own ICC and DOT Authority, thereby enabling them to carry
on business as a common carrier on their own, and not as a lessee.

- 18. In or about August 2011, plaintiff Yosef L. Mustafanos and defendant Deborah June Strode entered into an agreement for the purpose of facilitating their being able to lease their trucks to Mercer Transportation, a larger trucking company which had already obtained its ICC and DOT Authority. Pursuant to this agreement, plaintiff Yosef L. Mustafanos agreed to transfer that certain 1991 Western Star, model 4964F, semi-tractor truck, VIN 3MK927998, which plaintiff Yosef L. Mustafanos had owned since May 2005, to the woman-owned trucking business which defendant Deborah June Strode would form and operate under the fictitious name and style of A and O Enterprise.
- 19. On or about August 24, 2011, pursuant to that agreement reached by plaintiff Yosef L. Mustafanos and defendant Deborah June Strode, defendant Deborah June Strode filed a Certificate of Business-Fictitious Firm Name with the Lyon County Recorder, showing that she was doing business under the fictitious name and style of A and O Enterprise.
- 20. In or about August 2011, pursuant to that agreement reached by plaintiff Yosef L. Mustafanos and defendant Deborah June Strode, plaintiff Yosef L. Mustafanos transferred title to the 1991 Western Star, model 4964F, semi-tractor truck, VIN 3MK927998, which he had owned since May 2005 to defendant Deborah June Strode, doing business as a woman-owned business under the fictitious name and style of A and O Enterprise. The sole purpose of this transfer was to enable A and O Enterprise to enter into a truck leasing contract first with Mercer Transportation, and then with CRST-Malone.

21. In forming the woman-owned trucking business known as A and O Enterprise, defendant Deborah June Strode knew, understood and had agreed that the true owner of the 1991 Western Star, model 4964F, semi-tractor truck, VIN 3MK927998, was plaintiff Yosef L. Mustafanos, and that she would transfer title to that semi-tractor truck back to plaintiff Yosef L. Mustafanos upon the occurrence of the earlier of two events. Those two events were (1) when plaintiff Yosef L. Mustafanos and defendant Deborah June Strode were able to obtain their own ICC and DOT Authority to operate as a common carrier; and (2) when A and O Enterprise could no longer operate on a profitable basis and had ceased its operations.

- 22. In transferring title to that certain 1991 Western Star, model 4964F, semitractor truck, VIN 3MK927998, which he had owned since May 2005 to defendant Deborah June Strode doing business as A and O Enterprise, plaintiff Yosef L. Mustafanos also knew, understood and had agreed that, although title to the vehicle was being placed in the name of A and O Enterprise, defendant Deborah June Strode would immediately transfer title to the 1991 Western Star, model 4964F, semi-tractor truck, VIN 3MK927998, back to plaintiff Yosef L. Mustafanos at such time as plaintiff Yosef L. Mustafanos and defendant Deborah June Strode were able to obtain their own ICC and DOT Authority to operate as a common carrier, or at such time that A and O Enterprise could no longer operate on a profitable basis and had ceased its operations, whichever event was first to occur.
- 23. Two years later, as of August 2013, A and O Enterprise had failed as a business, was deeply in debt and was losing money. Consequently, it was decided by plaintiff Yosef L. Mustafanos and defendant Deborah June Strode that A and O Enterprise would cease operations and that Deborah June Strode would transfer title to the 1991 Western Star, model 4964F, semi-tractor truck, VIN 3MK927998, back to plaintiff Yosef L. Mustafanos. Pursuant to their earlier understanding and agreement, on July 17, 2013, defendant Deborah June Strode gave to plaintiff Yosef L. Mustafanos a Full Power of Attorney, for that certain 1991 Western Star, model 4964F, semi-

tractor truck, VIN 3MK927998, a copy of which is attached hereto as Exhibit "\_\_\_\_."

- 24. In executing a Full Power of Attorney in favor of plaintiff Yosef L. Mustafanos for that certain 1991 Western Star, model 4964F, semi-tractor truck, VIN 3MK927998, on July 17, 2013, Deborah June Strode knew, understood, agreed and intended that the Full Power of Attorney would enable plaintiff Yosef L. Mustafanos to execute a Certificate of Title which would transfer title to the 1991 Western Star, model 4964F, semi-tractor truck, VIN 3MK927998, back to plaintiff Yosef L. Mustafanos.
- 25. On August 3, 2013, by his execution of a Certificate of Title which was witnessed by defendant Deborah June Strode, plaintiff Yosef L. Mustafanos understood that he had transferred title to the 1991 Western Star, model 4964F, semi-tractor truck, VIN 3MK927998, to plaintiff Yosef L. Mustafanos and Lyon of Judah, as joint tenants.
- 26. At the time plaintiff Yosef L. Mustafanos executed the Certificate of Title which he understood would transfer title to the 1991 Western Star, model 4964F, semi-tractor truck, VIN 3MK927998, to plaintiff Yosef L. Mustafanos and Lyon of Judah as joint tenants defendant Deborah June Strode knew, understood and was fully aware that plaintiff Yosef L. Mustafanos was not intending to submit the executed Certificate of Title to the Nevada Department of Motor Vehicles until sometime in April 2014 because it was not until April of 2014 that plaintiff Yosef L. Mustafanos intended to once again start driving for CRST-Malone.
- 27. On February 4, 2014, early in the morning and without any advance notice, defendant Deborah June Strode left the house in which plaintiff Yosef L. Mustafanos and defendant Deborah June Strode were then residing.
- 28. On the following day, to wit: February 5, 2014, defendant Deborah June Strode returned to the house located at 5400 Railroad Street, Silver Springs, Nevada, at about 2:00 o'clock in the afternoon, accompanied by a deputy sheriff with the Lyon County Sheriff's Department, deputy sheriff S. Haas. Defendant Deborah

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June Strode and deputy sheriff Haus entered the house and called out the name of plaintiff Yosef L. Mustafanos. Upon hearing his name called out, plaintiff Yosef L. Mustafanos went into the living room of the house where he observed defendant Deborah June Strode and deputy sheriff Haus standing. Deputy sheriff Haas had her hand on her firearm. Plaintiff Yosef L. Mustafanos immediately asked defendant Deborah June Strode why she was there with the deputy sheriff and whether or not she was leaving him. Defendant Deborah June Strode did not respond directly to plaintiff Yosef L. Mustafanos's inquiry, but only said that "You'll find out." Defendant Deborah June Strode, however, did ask plaintiff Yosef L. Mustafanos to give her the extra key which he had for the 1991 Western Star, model 4964F, semi-tractor truck, VIN 3MK927998, as well as the spare key to her car. Plaintiff Yosef L. Mustafanos gave defendant Deborah June Strode the extra key to the semi-tractor truck, as well as the spare key to her car. Both defendant Deborah June Strode and deputy sheriff S. Haas then left the house. Plaintiffs Yosef L. Mustafanos and Shirley Jean Clifton are informed and believe and based thereon allege that defendant Deborah June Strode did not return to the house until September 14, 2014.

- 29. Plaintiffs are informed and believe and based thereon allege that on or about February 5, 2014, unbeknownst to plaintiff Yosef L. Mustafanos and contrary to the understanding and agreement previously reached by plaintiff Yosef L. Mustafanos and defendant Deborah June Strode, defendant Deborah June Strode went to the Department of Motor Vehicles where she once worked and filled out a form claiming that she had lost the original title to the 1991 Western Star, model 4964F, semi-tractor truck. Based upon this false representation, the Nevada Department of Motor Vehicles issued to defendant Yosef L. Mustafanos a new original title to the 1991 Western Star, model 4964F, semi-tractor truck, thereby negating the Certificate of Title which plaintiff Yosef L. Mustafanos had executed and which defendant Deborah June Strode had witnessed on August 3, 2013.
  - 30. Plaintiffs are informed and believe and based thereon allege that

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- defendants Deborah June Strode, Gregory Kantz, Laura DePaoli, Andrew Strode and DOE 3 met with one another on the morning of September 14, 2014, at the Lahontan Market on Fir Avenue in Silver Springs and conspired with one another for the purpose of enabling defendant Deborah June Strode to gain unfettered entrance into the house located at 5400 Railroad Street to harass plaintiffs Yosef L. Mustafanos and Shirley Jean Clifton and to seize possession of property which legally belonged to plaintiffs.
- 31. On September 14, 2014, at approximately 8:00 a.m., without the benefit of any civil standby order or other court order, defendants Deborah June Strode, Gregory Kantz, Laura DePaoli, Andrew Strode and DOE 3 came to the house located at 5400 Railroad Street with three (3) pick-up trucks and one (1) trailer. Upon arriving at the house in which plaintiffs Yosef L. Mustafanos, Shirley Jean Clifton and their brother James Marshall were then sleeping, plaintiffs are informed and believe and based thereon allege that defendant Deborah June Strode knocked on the front door. When someone from inside the house did not immediately respond to the knocking on the door, defendant Deborah June Strode asked defendant Gregory Kantz for his authorization to throw a brick through the window of the bedroom where plaintiff Shirley Jean Clifton was then sleeping. Defendant Gregory Kantz responded to defendant Deborah June Strode's request for his permission to throw a brick through the window of plaintiff Shirley Jean Clifton's bedroom by giving encouragement to defendant Deborah June Strode and telling defendant Deborah June Strode "It's your house, you can break whatever you want."
- 32. Upon receiving defendant Gregory Kantz's encouragement and authorization, defendant Deborah June Strode threw a brick through the window of the bedroom in which plaintiff Shirley Jean Clifton was then sleeping, causing her to be awakened by the sound of breaking glass and also causing her to be fearful for her life and personal safety.
- 33. Upon hearing the knocking which was taking place at his front door, plaintiff Yosef L. Mustafanos put on his pants, slippers and "T" shirt and proceeded

towards the front door, intent on answering the door. While proceeding towards the front door, plaintiff Yosef L. Mustafanos heard the sound of breaking glass coming from the bedroom of his sister, plaintiff Shirley Jean Clifton.

- 34. When plaintiff Yosef L. Mustafanos got to the front door, he opened it and saw defendant Gregory Kantz standing in front of him with his hand on his firearm. He also observed defendant Deborah June Strode breaking out the remaining particles of glass which were in the window of plaintiff Shirley Jean Clifton's bedroom. Upon seeing that defendant Deborah June Strode had broken out the window in his sister's bedroom, plaintiff Yosef L. Mustafanos asked defendant Gregory Kantz and Deborah June Strode, "Who is going to be responsible for replacing the glass window?" Defendant Deborah June Strode immediately responded by saying "It's my house too. I can break all of the windows out and you can't do anything about it." Defendant Gregory Kantz repeated the same words to plaintiff Yosef L. Mustafanos, telling him that defendant Deborah June Strode could break anything she wanted because she was also on title to the house.
- 35. Upon receiving this explanation, plaintiff Yosef L. Mustafanos asked defendant Deborah June Strode, "Why didn't you throw a brick through my window?", defendant Deborah June Strode responded, saying, "I hate that crippled bitch and I want her out of my house."
- 36. Still standing in front of plaintiff Yosef L. Mustafanos, defendant Gregory Kantz then ordered plaintiff Yosef L. Mustafanos to step aside and let defendants Deborah June Strode, Laura DePaoli, Andrew Strode and DOE 3 into the house. With this last order, defendant Deborah June Strode stated that she owns everything in the house and that plaintiff Yosef L. Mustafanos owns nothing. Plaintiff Yosef L. Mustafanos objected to defendant Deborah June Strode's claim, stating that it was not true, and that "You are not going to remove my personal property." When plaintiff Yosef L. Mustafanos indicated that he was not going to allow defendants Deborah June Strode, Laura DePaoli, Andrew Strode and DOE 3 to take any of his

- 37. Due to defendant Gregory Kantz's threatening behavior, plaintiff Yosef Mustafanos did not physically prevent defendants Deborah June Strode, Laura DePaoli, Andrew Strode or DOE 3 from coming into the house.
- 38. Upon entering into the house, defendant Deborah June Strode told defendants Andrew Strode and DOE 3 to go into plaintiff Shirley Jean Clifton's bedroom, directing them to "go and get my blankets off the Bitch" and "dump all of plaintiff Shirley Jean Clifton's belongings on the floor." Defendants Andrew Strode and DOE 3 complied with defendant Deborah June Strode's directions. They stripped from plaintiff Shirley Jean Clifton the blankets which were covering her and exposed her in her underclothes.
- 39. Defendant Gregory Kantz also entered into the house and sat at the kitchen table. Upon doing so, defendant Gregory Kantz told plaintiffs Yosef L. Mustafanos that defendant Deborah June Strode "can take whatever she wants. You just have to sue her to get your items back."
- 40. Defendants Deborah June Strode, Laura DePaoli, Andrew Strode and DOE 3 went through each room in the house, taking basically anything that defendant Deborah June Strode wanted and trashing the bedrooms in which plaintiff Shirley Jean Clifton and James Marshall had been sleeping. Among the items which defendants Deborah June Strode, Laura DePaoli, Andrew Strode and DOE 3 seized and carried away were items in which plaintiff Yosef L. Mustafanos had a community property interest. These items consisted of a (1) chest of drawers, (2) dresser, (3) stand-alone

- full body mirror and wood frame, (4) two bedroom table lamps, (5) picture of an old man praying, (6) large wall clock, (7) small wall clock, (8) three candy dishes, (9) four bedroom lamps, (10) living room lamp, (11) white DVD cabinet, (12) vacuum cleaner, (13) two china hutches, (14) two glass Pyrex baking pans, (15) five eagle statues, (16) DVD movies, (17) three comforters, (18) eight bath towels, hand towels, wash clothes, (19) one glass end table, (20) one ceramic pitcher and wash basin bowl, (21) one living room mirror, (22) a French Provincial hall table and (23) one Mossberg 12 guage shotgun.
- 41. At approximately 10:15 a.m. of September 14, 2014, defendants Deborah June Strode, Laura DePaoli, Andrew Strode and DOE 3 had removed what they could from the house. At that time, defendant Gregory Kantz informed the defendants that they could not take anything else from the house because he had to then leave to take care of another matter. He also told them that they would have to leave the house. However, in doing so, defendant Gregory Kantz told the defendants that they could remove whatever they wanted from the personal property which had been stored in the outside shed.
- 42. After defendant Gregory Kantz had gone, defendants Deborah June Strode, Laura DePaoli, Andrew Strode and DOE 3 seized and carried away the following property in which plaintiff Yosef L. Mustafanos had a community property interest and which was stored in the outside storage shed: (1) two bar stools, (2) three oscillating pole fans, (3) round wood and glass coffee table, (4) one barbeque and (5) a 96 piece ceramic Rooster dinnerware and cannister set.
- 43. Defendant Deborah June Strode, before leaving, apprized plaintiff Yosef L. Mustafanos that "We will be back anytime we want to and you can't stop us."
- 44. After defendants Deborah June Strode, Gregory Kantz, Andrew Strode and DOE 3 left, plaintiff immediately telephone Undersheriff Albert Torres and explained what had happened and defendant Gregory Kantz's participation in those events. Undersheriff Albert Torres informed plaintiff Yosef L. Mustafanos that

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defendant Gregory Kantz would no longer be permitted to come onto plaintiff Yosef L. Mustafanos's property.

45. On September 15, 2014, unbeknownst to plaintiff Yosef L. Mustafanos, defendant Deborah June Strode filed an Application for a Temporary and/or Extended Order for Protection against Domestic Violence in the Justice Court of Dayton Township. On the next day, to wit: September 16, 2014, the Dayton Justice Court entered a Temporary Order for Protection Against Domestic Violence, a true copy of which is attached hereto as Exhibit "1". Pursuant to that Temporary Order for Protection, the Dayton Justice Court provided for a civil standby order which specifically provided that it:

"ALLOW(S) A CIVIL STANDBY WHILE APPLICANT RETRIEVES JEWELRY, PAINTINGS, AND OTHER PERSONAL ITEMS FROM ADVERSE PARTY'S ADDRESS LOCATED AT 5400 RAILROAD STREET SILVER SPRINGS NV 89429."

Plaintiff Yosef L. Mustafanos was served with that temporary protective order on or about September 30, 2014.

- 46. Several days after defendants Deborah June Strode, Gregory Kantz, Andrew Strode and DOE 3 had left and while cleaning up the mess caused by said defendants, plaintiffs Yosef L. Mustafanos and Shirley Jean Clifton ascertained that defendant Deborah June Strode had left some of her belongings in the house. Plaintiff Yosef L. Mustafanos gathered together all of the defendant Deborah June Strode's personal property which remained in the house, to wit: her shoes, clothes, paintings, jewelry and jewelry box, and put these items in the outdoor storage shed which he locked for their protection until such time that defendant Deborah June Strode could return and pick them up.
- Approximately two weeks later, on October 4, 2014, defendants Deborah 47. June Strode and Gregory Kantz returned unannounced to the house located at 5400 Railroad Street, accompanied by 6-8 pick-up trucks with trailers attached. Defendant

Gregory Kantz came to the front porch and knocked on the front door. When plaintiff Yosef L. Mustafanos opened the front door, he saw approximately ten (10) other people standing on the porch with defendants Gregory Kantz and Deborah June Strode, using cell phones and taking pictures. Upon opening the front door, defendant Gregory Kantz ordered plaintiff Yosef L. Mustafanos "Unlock your Burglar Door and let Deborah Strode and her friends into the house so that she could get her belongings. If you don't open the door, you will be arrested."

- 48. Because plaintiff Yosef L. Mustafanos had been told by Undersheriff Albert Torres that defendant Gregory Kantz was not going to be allowed to come to plaintiffs' residence located at 5400 Railroad Street, Silver Springs, Nevada following the report which plaintiff Yosef L. Mustafanos had made of the incident which had taken place on September 14, 2014, plaintiff Yosef L. Mustafanos stated to defendant Gregory Kantz that he was not supposed to be at plaintiffs' property, closed the front door, and immediately placed a 911 call to the Lyon County Sheriff in which he complained about the presence of defendant Gregory Kantz at his residence. In that 911 telephone conversation, plaintiff Yosef L. Mustafanos was informed that, despite his complaint that defendant Gregory Kantz was not supposed to be on plaintiff's property, plaintiff Yosef L. Mustafanos would have to work through defendant Gregory Kantz because defendant Gregory Kantz was then on the property. Consequently, plaintiff Yosef L. Mustafanos went back and opened the front door.
- 49. When plaintiff Yosef L. Mustafanos opened the front door, defendant Gregory Kantz was no longer on the porch, but was instead just emerging from his sheriff's vehicle. Plaintiffs are informed and believe and based thereon allege that defendant Gregory Kantz had just finished up on a telephone conversation with the same person with whom plaintiff Yosef L. Mustafanos had been talking on the 911 call. Plaintiff Yosef L. Mustafanos got defendant Gregory Kantz's attention. Defendant Gregory walked towards plaintiff Yosef L. Mustafanos with a copy of what plaintiff Yosef L. Mustafanos understood was the temporary protective Order in his

hand, telling plaintiff Yosef L. Mustafanos that he was going to charge him with abusing the 911 telephone line. Defendant Gregory Kantz then asked plaintiff Yosef L. Mustafanos, "Whether he was going to deny defendant Deborah June Strode access to the home in order to get her belongings?"

- 50. Out of fear for his own safety and that of his sister and, further, because plaintiff Yosef L. Mustafanos was aware that the temporary protective Order which defendant Deborah June Strode had obtained on September 15, 2014 did not specifically give defendant Deborah June Strode the right to enter the house, but only gave defendant Deborah June Strode the right to take possession of her jewelry, paintings and other personal items from the address located at 5400 Railroad Street, Silver Springs, Nevada, plaintiff Yosef L. Mustafanos did not open the security door to let defendant Deborah June Strode and her companions into the home. Instead, plaintiff Yosef L. Mustafanos informed defendant Gregory Kantz that all of defendant Deborah June Strode's personal belongings had been placed by him in the outdoor storage shed under lock and key for their protection and that it was not necessary for defendant Deborah June Strode to enter into the house.
- 51. While talking with defendant Gregory Kantz at the front door, and before anyone had asked plaintiff Yosef L. Mustafanos for the key to the storage shed lock, Yosef L. Mustafanos heard defendant Deborah June Strode and her companions breaking the outdoor storage shed lock with a sledge hammer. Plaintiff Yosef L. Mustafanos walked away from the front door. At about this same time, defendant Gregory Kantz asked plaintiff Yosef L. Mustafanos for the keys to the fuel tank of the 1991 Western Star, model 4964F, semi-tractor truck, which plaintiff Yosef L. Mustafanos owned. Plaintiff Yosef L. Mustafanos refused defendant Gregory Kantz's request because the semi-tractor truck was owned by him, and not by defendant Deborah June Strode. Defendant Gregory Kantz turned and walked to his sheriff's vehicle which he parked a distance from the house and then watched while defendants Deborah June Strode, Laura DePaoli and DOES 3-10 removed the property which had

been stored in the outside storage shed.

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- 52. Defendant Gregory Kantz then shouted to defendant Deborah June Strode and all of her companions that "He's not going to let us in, so you can leave now." With this directive, a parade of six (6) pickup trucks, pulling trailers, drove away empty. Defendants Deborah June Strode, Laura DePaoli and DOES 3-10 remained with a pickup truck and continued to move property from the outdoor storage shed.
- 53. While defendants Deborah June Strode, Laura DePaoli and DOES 3-10 were removing property from the outdoor storage shed, plaintiff Yosef L. Mustafanos heard the engine of his 1991 Western Star, model 4964F, semi-tractor truck, VIN 3MK927998, being started up. Plaintiff Yosef L. Mustafanos immediately came out onto the porch to see what was occurring, and observed that two of defendant Deborah June Strode's companions, a husband and wife whose names plaintiffs do not know, but who have been designated by the fictitious names DOE 4 and DOE 5 in this Complaint, were loading the semi-tractor truck with items which had been taken out of the outdoor storage shed. While plaintiff Yosef L. Mustafanos was having a very general conversation with DOE 4 and DOE 5, and asking them what they thought they were doing, defendant Gregory Kantz drove his vehicle up to the two individuals, one of whom was then driving the semi-tractor truck, and told them not to have any discussions with the plaintiff Yosef L. Mustafanos, but instead to just drive away, which defendants DOE 4 and 5 did. Defendants' pickup truck and plaintiff Yosef L. Mustafanos's semi-tractor truck were loaded not only with furniture, appliances, clothes, jewelry and linens, but also with plaintiff Yosef L. Mustafanos's personal tools of trade and equipment which were seized and driven off of the property.
- 54. Plaintiff Yosef L. Mustafanos did not make any attempt to prevent defendant Deborah June Strode and her companions from seizing his semi-tractor truck, his personal tools of trade which were in that truck, and his personal belongings which had been removed from the outdoor storage shed because of his fear that he

would be arrested and/or personally harmed by defendant Gregory Kantz.

- 55. On October 4, 2014, defendants Deborah June Strode, Laura DePaoli, Andrew Strode, and DOES 3-10 personally seized and took away with them tools and equipment of plaintiff Yosef L. Mustafanos which were valued at \$11,600.00, as well as plaintiff Yosef L. Mustafanos's 1991 Western Star, model 4964F, semi-tractor truck, VIN 3MK927998, valued at \$50,000.
- 56. Plaintiffs are informed and believe and based thereon allege that said defendants with the assistance of defendant Edward Anderson have attempted to conceal from plaintiff Yosef L. Mustafanos his 1991 Western Star, model 4964F, semi-tractor truck, by hiding said truck behind defendant Edward Anderson's barn which is located at 5035 Geraldine Avenue in Silver Springs, Nevada.

# FIRST CLAIM FOR RELIEF (Deprivation of Rights Under Color of State Law) [42 U.S.C. §§ 1983, 1988]

- 57. Plaintiffs refer to paragraphs 1 through 56 of their General Allegations and incorporate the same herein by this reference.
- 58. Plaintiffs are informed and believe, and based thereon allege, that the law enforcement officers who were in charge of the Lyon County Sheriff's Department implicitly or explicitly adopted and implemented careless and reckless policies, customs, or practices which, among other things, allowed deputy sheriffs in the employ of the Lyon County Sheriff's Department to (1) perform civil standbys and affirmatively affect the repossession of property in the possession of third parties on behalf of private parties without the necessity of a court order allowing the same; (2) to perform warrantless entries into private homes for the purpose of affirmatively facilitating and encouraging unreasonable searches and seizures performed by private persons; and (3) to affirmatively intervene to aid private parties in repossessing property where the ownership of the property being repossessed is in dispute and repossession would not occur, but for the assistance, control and coercive authority exhibited by the Lyon County officers in assisting private parties to take possession of

the property.

- 59. Plaintiffs are also informed and believe, and based thereon allege, that the law enforcement officers who were in charge of the Lyon County Sheriff's Department failed to train its deputy sheriffs in the proper manner to handle civil standbys and acted with deliberate indifference to the rights of third parties to be free from unreasonable seizures.
- 60. Plaintiffs are informed and believe, and based thereon allege, that it was the long-standing practice and custom of the Lyon County Sheriff's Department to allow its deputy sheriffs to violate the constitutional rights of third parties which are guaranteed by the Fourth and Fourteenth Amendments to the United States Constitution (1) by performing civil standbys and affirmatively affecting the repossession of property in the possession of third parties on behalf of private parties without the necessity of a court order allowing the same; (2) by performing warrantless entries into private homes for the purpose of affirmatively facilitating and encouraging unreasonable searches and seizures performed by private persons; and (3) by affirmatively intervening to aid private parties in repossessing property where the ownership of the property being repossessed is in dispute and repossession would not occur, but for the assistance, control and authority exhibited by the Lyon County deputy sheriffs in assisting private parties to take possession of the property.
- 61. The failure of the Lyon County Sheriff's department to adequately train and supervise its deputy sheriff's in the proper performance of civil standbys amounts to deliberate indifference to the rights of plaintiffs to be free from unreasonable seizures under the Fourth and Fourteenth Amendments to the United States Constitution.
- 62. As a result of this deliberate indifference to the rights of plaintiffs, plaintiffs have suffered the loss of their property through defendants' unconstitutional seizure of that property, the loss of income growing out of the inability of plaintiff Yosef L. Mustafanos to engage in the business of a contract truck driver due to the

seizure of his semi-tractor truck by defendants, and personal injuries in the form of the
emotional distress and suffering which defendants caused to plaintiff Shirley Jean
Clifton when they broke the window of her bedroom on September 14, 2014, stripped
her of her blankets, and trashed her bedroom.

- 63. In committing the acts complained of herein, defendants acted under color of state law to deprive plaintiffs of certain constitutionally protected rights, including, but not limited to: (1) the right to be free from unreasonable searches and seizures; and (2) the right not to be deprived of property without due process of law.
- 64. By reason of defendant Gregory Kantz's conduct described hereinabove, and the failure of those persons in charge of the Lyon County Sheriff's Department to properly train and supervise its deputy sheriffs in the proper performance of civil standbys, the constitutional rights of plaintiffs to be free from unreasonable searches and seizures which is guaranteed by the Fourth Amendment to the United States Constitution, as well as the constitutional right of plaintiffs not to be deprived of their property without due process of law which is guaranteed by the Fourteenth Amendment to the United States Constitution, have been violated.

### SECOND CLAIM FOR RELIEF

(Deprivation of Civil Rights in Violation of State Law) [Nev.Const. Art. 1, § 8(5), § 18]

- 65. Plaintiffs refer to paragraphs 1 through 56 of their General Allegations and incorporate the same herein by this reference.
- 66. By reason of defendants' conduct, plaintiffs were deprived of rights, privileges, and immunities secured to them by the Nevada State Constitution, specifically Article 1, § 8(5), which provides that

"No person shall be deprived of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law.",

and Article 1, § 18, which reads:

"Unreasonable seizure and search; issuance of warrants. The right of the people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers and effects

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against unreasonable seizures and searches shall not be violated. . . .", in that the actions of defendant Gregory Kantz and, on the theory of respondeat superior, Lyon County were not only unlawful, but said actions also amounted to unreasonable searches and seizures of property which belonged to plaintiffs Yosef L. Mustafanos and Shirley Jean Clifton, as well as an unlawful deprivation of plaintiffs' property without due process of law.

- 7 67. As a proximate result of defendants' actions against plaintiffs Yosef L. 8 Mustafanos and Shirley Jean Clifton, as alleged above, plaintiffs have suffered the loss 9 of their property through defendants' unconstitutional seizure of that property, the loss 10 of income growing out of the inability of plaintiff Yosef L. Mustafanos to engage in 11 the business of a contract truck driver due to the seizure of his semi-tractor truck by 12 defendants, and personal injuries in the form of the emotional distress and suffering which defendants caused to plaintiff Shirley Jean Clifton when they broke the window 13 14 of her bedroom on September 14, 2014, stripped her of her blankets, and trashed her 15 bedroom.
  - 68. In committing the acts complained of herein, defendants acted under color of state law to deprive plaintiffs of certain constitutionally protected rights, including, but not limited to: (1) the right to be free from unreasonable searches and seizures; and (2) the right not to be deprived of property without due process of law.
  - 69. By reason of defendant Gregory Kantz's conduct described hereinabove, and the failure of those persons in charge of the Lyon County Sheriff's Department to properly train and supervise its deputy sheriffs in the proper performance of civil standbys, the constitutional rights of plaintiffs to be free from unreasonable searches and seizures which are guaranteed by § 18 of Article 1 of the Nevada State Constitution, as well as the constitutional rights of plaintiffs not to be deprived of their property without due process of law which are guaranteed by § 8(5) of the Nevada State Constitution, have been violated.
    - 70. The above-recited actions of defendants in depriving plaintiffs Yosef L.

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#### THIRD CLAIM FOR RELIEF

Mustafanos and Shirley Jean Clifton of their constitutionally protected rights were

done with evil motive and intent, or with reckless or callous indifference to plaintiffs'

(Trespass to Real and Personal Property)

- 71. Plaintiffs refer to paragraphs 1 through 56 of their General Allegations and incorporate the same herein by this reference.
- 72. On or about September 14, 2014, and October 4, 2014, defendants and each of them without plaintiffs' consent entered the above described property, i.e., 5400 Railroad Street, Silver Springs, Nevada.
- 73. In addition, on September 14, 2014, and October 4, 2014, defendants and each of them, without plaintiffs' consent, seized, took possession of, and carried away property which belonged to plaintiffs, specifically including, but not limited to those personal tools and equipment which belonged to plaintiff Yosef L. Mustafanos and which were valued at \$11,600.00, and that certain 1991 Western Star, model 4964F. semi-tractor truck, VIN 3MK927998, which was owned by plaintiff Yosef L. Mustafanos and which was valued at \$50,000.00.
- 74. In seizing, taking possession of, and carrying away plaintiff Yosef L. Mustafanos's 1991 Western Star, model 4964F, semi-tractor truck, VIN 3MK927998, plaintiff Yosef L. Mustafanos is informed and believes and based thereon alleges that defendants damaged the gearing mechanism of said semi-tractor truck, thereby rendering it unable to be driven. Plaintiffs do not presently know the full extent of the damage which has been done to said semi-tractor truck, but when plaintiffs ascertain the cost which will be involved in repairing said semi-tractor truck, plaintiffs will amend this Complaint for the purpose of inserting the same.
- 75. As a proximate result of defendants' action in seizing, taking possession of, and carrying away plaintiff Yosef L. Mustafanos's 1991 Western Star, model 4964F, semi-tractor truck, VIN 3MK927998, and the damage which has been done to

#### FOURTH CLAIM FOR RELIEF

(Conversion of Personal Property)

- 77. Plaintiffs refer to paragraphs 1 through 56 of their General Allegations and incorporate the same herein by this reference.
- 78. At all times herein mentioned, and in particular on or about September 14, 2014 and October 4, 2014, plaintiffs were, and still are the owners of that personal property described hereinabove, and were, are still are, entitled to the possession of said personal property.
- 79. On or about September 14, 2014, the property of plaintiffs Yosef L. Mustafanos and Shirley Jean Clifton which defendants unlawfully seized, took possession of and carried away, thereby converting the same to their own use and benefit, had a value in excess of \$10,000.00.
- 80. On or about October 4, 2014, the property of plaintiff Yosef L. Mustafanos which defendants unlawfully seized, took possession of and carried away, thereby converting the same to their own use and benefit, i.e., his personal tools, equipment and the 1991 Western Star, model 4964F, semi-tractor truck, VIN 3MK927998, had a value in excess of \$61,600.00.
  - 81. As a proximate result of defendants' action in converting plaintiff Yosef

- L. Mustafanos's 1991 Western Star, model 4964F, semi-tractor truck, VIN 3MK927998, to their own use and benefit, plaintiff Yosef L. Mustafanos has lost income and profits by not having the use of said semi-tractor truck in his truck transport business. Plaintiffs do not presently know the full extent of the income and profits which plaintiff Yosef L. Mustafanos has suffered as a result of defendants' conversion of said semi-tractor truck, but when plaintiffs ascertain the full extent of those lost profits and income, plaintiffs will amend this Complaint for the purpose of inserting the same.
- 82. Between the time of defendants' conversion of the above-named property to their own use, plaintiffs have expended time and money in pursuit of the converted property, all to plaintiff's further damage in excess of the sum of \$10,000.00.
- 83. The aforementioned acts of defendants, and each of them, were willful, wanton, malicious, oppressive, and were undertaken with the intent to defraud plaintiffs, and justify the awarding of exemplary and punitive damages.

#### FIFTH CLAIM FOR RELIEF

(Conspiracy)

- 84. Plaintiffs refer to paragraphs 1 through 56 of their General Allegations and incorporate the same herein by this reference.
- 85. Defendants Gregory Kantz, Deborah June Strode, Laura DePaoli, Andrew Strode, and DOES 3-10 did the acts and things herein alleged pursuant to, and in furtherance of, the conspiracy and above-alleged agreement.
- 86. Defendant Edward Anderson furthered the conspiracy by cooperating with and lending aid and encouragement to the acts of defendants Deborah June Strode, Laura DePaoli, Andrew Strode and DOES 3-10, in that defendant Edward Anderson has attempted to conceal the whereabouts of the 1991 Western Star, model 4964F, semi-tractor truck, VIN 3MK927998, owned by plaintiff Yosef L. Mustafanos; and once the whereabouts of the 1991 Western Star, model 4964F, semi-tractor truck, VIN 3MK927998, was learned by plaintiffs, i.e., hidden behind defendant Edward

Anderson's barn, defendant Edward Anderson has refused to turn over possession of said semi-tractor truck to plaintiffs, and in fact has obtained a temporary protective order which prevents plaintiff Yosef L. Mustafanos from coming onto his property to retrieve the same.

- 87. Plaintiffs are informed and believe and based upon information belief allege that the conspiracy among defendants originated on o,r about February 5, 2014, and that the conspiracy continues on until the present date.
- 88. In doing the things herein alleged, defendants acted with malice, oppression and fraud, that is, with the intent to cause plaintiffs injury; and, therefore, plaintiffs are entitled to an award of punitive or exemplary damages.

#### SIXTH CLAIM FOR RELIEF

(Intentional Infliction of Emotional Distress)

- 89. Plaintiff Shirley Jean Clifton refers to paragraphs 1 through 56 of plaintiffs' General Allegations and paragraphs 83 through 87 of the Fifth Claim for Relief, and incorporates the same herein by this reference.
- 90. The conduct of defendants Gregory Kantz, Deborah June Strode, Laura DePaoli, Andrew Strode and DOE 3, in breaking the bedroom window of plaintiff Shirley Jean Clifton, stripping her of the blankets which covered her in her bed, taking her possession, and trashing her bedroom was intentional and malicious and done for the purpose of causing plaintiff Shirley Jean Clifton to suffer humiliation, mental anguish, and emotional and physical distress, and done with a wanton and reckless disregard of the consequences to plaintiff Shirley Jean Clifton.
- 91. As a proximate result of defendants' actions against plaintiff Shirley Jean Clifton, as alleged above, plaintiff Shirley Jean Clifton has been harmed in that she was subjected to abuse, humiliation and indignity, and has suffered great mental, emotional and nervous pain and suffering, all to her damage in an amount according to proof.
  - 92. The above-recited conduct of defendants was willful and malicious and

1	was intended to oppress and cause injury to plaintiff Shirley Jean Clifton. Therefore,
2	plaintiff Shirley Jean Clifton is entitled to an award of punitive damages.
3	WHEREFORE, each of the plaintiffs request judgment against defendants, and
4	each of them, as follows:
5	1. For general damages in an amount according to proof;
6	2. For punitive damages in an amount appropriate to punish defendants for
7	their wrongful conduct and set an example for others;
8	3. For reasonable attorney's fees pursuant to Title 42 of the United States
9	Code, Section 1988;
-10	4. For costs of suit herein incurred; and
11	5. For such other and further relief as the Court deems just and proper in
12	the premises.
13	DATED this 23rd day of April, 2015.
14	LAW OFFICE OF JAMES SHIELDS BEASLEY
15	Attorney for Plaintiffs 435 Court Street P.O. Box 2936
16	Reno, Nevada 89505
17	By James SV Garley
18	AMES SHIELDS BEASLEY
19	
20	DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL
21	Plaintiffs in the above-entitled action request a trial by jury as provided by
22	Amendment VII of the United States Constitution and by Rule 38 of the Federal Rules
23	of Civil Procedure.
24	JAMES SHIELDS BEASLEY LLY
25	Attorney for Plaintiffs Yosef L. Mustafanos
26	and Shirley Jean Clifton
27	Telephone: (775) 329-6852 Fax No.: (775) 329-2174
28	Email: jimbeasleyesq@gmail.com

VERIFICATION I, Yosef L. Mustafanos, declare: I am one of the plaintiffs in the above-entitled action. I have read the foregoing Complaint and Demand for Jury Trial and know the contents thereof. The same is true of my own knowledge, except as to those matters which are alleged on information and belief, and as to those matters, I believe it to be true. I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of Nevada that the foregoing is true and correct. DATED this 23rd day of April, 2015, at Reno, Nevada.